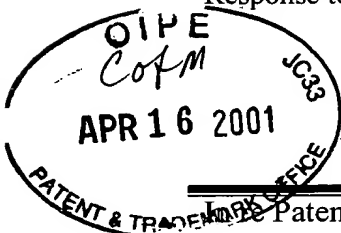


09/164,216

Response to Election of Species Requirement (Mailed March 13, 2001)

PATENT

424-01
R. Brader



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Patent Application of:

Ronald Pasqualini

Appln. No.: 09/164,216

Filed: September 30, 1998

For: ESD PROTECTION CIRCUIT
UTILIZING FLOATING LATERAL
CLAMP DIODES

Group Art Unit: 2811

Examiner: O. Nadav

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES
REQUIREMENT (Mailed March 13, 2001)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the
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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dated: 04-11-01

By: Robert D. King

Dear Sir:

The Examiner asserted that claims 1, 5-6, 10-11, 15, 17-23, and 32-37 are directed to a number of patentably distinct species. The Examiner identified six species, and argued that FIGs. 8-9, 10-11, 12, 14, 15, and 16 each show a different species. Applicant disagrees that the previously listed figures each show a different species but, in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §121, elects to prosecute the species shown in FIG. 16. Applicant believes that claims 1, 5-6, 10-11, 15, 17-21, and 33 read on the embodiment shown in FIG. 16.

Applicant notes that the present specification includes figures directed to a diode, and figures directed to chips which include the diode. For example, FIGs. 8 and 9 show a diode 800, while FIGs. 10 and 11 show a diode 1000. For chips, FIG. 12 shows a chip that utilizes diode 800 or diode 1000, while FIG. 14 shows a chip 1400 that utilizes diode 800 or diode 1000. FIG. 15 shows a chip 1500 that utilizes diode 800 or diode 1000, while FIG. 16 shows a chip 1600 that utilizes diode 800 or diode 1000.

If a chip includes a diode structure, then an embodiment of the chip that is illustrated in a figure, such as FIG. 16, is necessarily further illustrated by any figure that illustrates the diode structure, such as FIGs. 8-11. For example, chip 1600, which is an embodiment of the invention, is illustrated by a number of drawings, including FIG. 16 which illustrates chip 1600 (which utilizes diodes 800 or 1000), and FIGs. 8-11 which illustrate diodes 800 and 1000. As a result, the embodiment shown in FIG. 16 necessarily includes the diodes shown

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in FIGs. 8-9 or 10-11. Thus, applicant believes that claims 1, 5-6, 10-11, 15, 17-21, and 33 read on the embodiment shown in FIGs 8-9 or 10-11, and 16.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

Dated: 4-11-01By: 

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